expansion and modernisation of Indian Rare Earths Factory at Manavalakurichi of Kanyakumari district of Tamil Nadu; and

(b) whether the Government propose to set up factories to manufacture finished materials out of the Rare Earths Raw Materials available there?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (SHRI YOGINDER K. ALAGH) : (a) The Manavalakurichi plant of Indian Rare Earths Limited has been modernised at a cost of Rs. 9.31 crore. The Zirconium Oxide Plant at Manavalakurichi is being expanded to increase the production of Zirconium Oxide.

(b) There is no proposal for establishing any industry at Manavalakurichi to manufacture finished products out of the minerals produced there.

**Rural Electrification**

2781. LT. GENERAL SHRI PRAKASH MANI TRIPATHI : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) the total number of villages electrified in Uttar Pradesh during 1996-97;

(b) whether the Government have any plan to complete the 100% electrification of villages in U.P. by 2005; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (DR. S. VENUGOPALACHARI) : (a) As per available information. Uttar Pradesh State Electricity Board (UPSEB) has reported electrification of 677 villages during 1996-97 upto January, 1997.

(b) and (c) Rural electrification is continuing process and electrification of all the villages in Uttar Pradesh by the end of 2005 A.D. will depend upon the availability of financial resources, power supply position in the States, total network of transmission and distribution system and other relevant inputs.

**World Bank Loan**

2782. SHRI KRISHAN LAL SHARMA : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether as per recent Government data World Bank loans of about Rs. 5,000 crores to various power projects in the country remain unutilised;

(b) if so, the details and reasons therefor; and

(c) measures are being contemplated to avoid such situations?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (DR. S. VENUGOPALACHARI) : (a) to (c) As on 31.1.1997, Rs. 7238 crores of World Bank loan for 10 power projects remains undrawn. The loans are sanctioned for a particular project which take few years for completion and hence the external assistance is spent over a period of time. Hence the loans include external assistance for projects which still have several years of utilisation period left. Therefore, undisbursed balance would exist at all points of time.

Government of India is monitoring and reviewing each externally aided project with a view to removing the various impediments arising in implementation for speedy utilisation of external assistance.

**Supply of L.P.G.**

2783. SHRIMATI BHAVNABEN DEVRAJ BHAI CHIKHALIA :

SHRI MANIBHAI RAMJIBHAI CHAUDHARI :

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether underweight supply of L.P.G. is being made by various Oil companies/dealers;

(b) if so, the action taken by Government against such oil companies/dealers;

(c) if not, the reasons for not weighing the refilled cylinder at the time of delivery while consumers asks for the same at the time of taking the delivery of cylinder;

(d) whether the Government have made or propose to make any provision for weighing the refilled cylinders at the time of delivery to the consumers;

(e) if so, by when provision is likely to be made to check such irregularity; and

(f) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI T.R. BAALU): (a) No, Sir. However, some cases of supply of under-weight cylinders have been reported by the oil companies.

(b) Action against distributors has been taken as per the relevant provisions of Marketing Discipline Guidelines, which include imposing and fine of Rs. 2000/- on the distributor in the first instance and termination on repeated complaints.

(c) to (f) A convenient device known as Spring balance was introduced for weighing the cylinders at the premises of the customers. Due to sustained use of this equipment, inaccuracies develop In the weighment, since it works on the principle of tension of spring. Even the Weights and Measures Deptt. do not favour the use of such equipment. However, there are clearly laid down procedures to ensure correctness of weight of LPG